

with the St. John District Association of California, Nevada, and parts of Africa. In March 2000, Christian Community Church purchased the building at 3838 N. West Avenue.

In 2005, Pastor Jackson united the church with the First Northern Central District Association of California, Nevada, and parts of Africa. Pastor Jackson served as Bible teacher, Vice-Executive Director, Member of the Board of Christian Education, Vice Moderator, and as Moderator of the First Northern Central District Association for over 5 years. With strong leadership, the last 22 years have been tremendously transformative for Christian Community Baptist Church. As they continue to grow and prosper, their effects in the community have helped too.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Christian Community Baptist Church as it celebrates its 22nd Anniversary. I commend Christian Community Baptist Church for its 22 years of commitment to service and I wish Dr. Jackson and the church many more years of service.

POSITION ON THE METHANE RULE

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I was unable to take part in debating and voting on the revocation of the previous administration's rule governing methane emissions due to meetings with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to address long-overlooked issues impacting South Louisiana's veterans. The Baton Rouge VA outpatient clinic in my district is undersized and not well suited to the needs of the Capital Region's veterans. Multiple administrations have highlighted the need to authorize a new lease—but it hasn't happened and getting veterans timely access to quality health care remains a top priority for me.

Had I been in Washington, D.C., I would have voted against S.J. Res 14 to repeal the "Oil and Natural Gas Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Review." We cannot afford to move backwards on President Trump's policies that put American energy first.

I support efforts to reduce methane emissions. I support smart regulations that result in reducing methane emissions. But I do not support an approach that results in stifling innovation and creates barriers to cost-effectively reducing methane emissions.

The United States has led the world in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and investing in innovation that will ensure continued reductions in emissions here and around the world. We produce resources and goods with a carbon profile envied around the world—that includes oil and gas. As global demand increases, as it is projected to do for natural gas, America should be supplying that demand. Especially if you care about global emissions and climate change.

With the deployment of innovative technologies, the use of our resources will become even cleaner. That's why we need a regime that encourages innovation and incentivizes the development and deployment of technologies to mitigate and monitor methane

emissions. Putting up barriers or making U.S. production of resources more expensive will drive up global emissions because it gives the competitive advantage in the global market to higher emitting resources—like those coming from Russia and China.

This CRA is not about reducing methane emissions, it's not about climate change, and it isn't about national security. It is solely about reducing energy choices. Moreover, this is about regulating an entire sector of the U.S. economy out of business. The majority is not shy about stating their goal—whether through an outright ban or death by a thousand cuts. And what is most insidious is that the anti-American oil and gas agenda doesn't apply to fossil energy outside the United States.

In fact, their actions benefit and subsidize fossil energy in other countries. You don't have to believe me, just look at their actions: we've seen cheers when the administration stops the construction of pipelines at home, actions which cost thousands of jobs for American families, reduce our energy security, and ultimately result in higher global emissions. Democrats sat on their hands as President Biden green-lit the Nord Stream 2 pipeline to carry natural gas from Russia to our allies in Europe—resulting in a stronger Putin and higher global emissions than if the United States had supplied that energy.

The majority voted against an amendment condemning the Russia action and Russian pipeline. Emissions never factored into their vote. In fact, Russian natural gas exported to Europe has a lifecycle greenhouse gas emission profile at least 42 percent higher than U.S. liquefied natural gas exported to Europe from Louisiana. Their singular intent was to reduce demand for an American resource by increasing the supply of Russian natural gas to our allies.

At home, their opposition to pipelines has resulted in increased use of higher-emitting heating oil and the importing of significantly higher-emitting natural gas from Russia. And while opposing lower emission production in America, progressives have called for increased oil production in Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, and Russia.

Don't believe me? Let me read a quote from a letter signed by several members of the current majority to President Trump in 2018: "Today we call on you to use all of your authority to . . . pressure the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and cooperating countries to Increase World Oil Supplies." That letter was signed by, among others, the current Leader of the Senate, CHUCK SCHUMER, and the author of the Green New Deal, ED MARKEY—the same crowd who advocated for banning American production of oil, American pipelines, and regulating out of existence any remaining American oil and gas. If this were about emissions, they wouldn't be advocating for increased production from higher polluting countries while reducing production from the more carbon efficient United States.

Members of the majority have repeatedly voted against amendment after amendment that would have halted action if the action would result in increased global emissions. Let me say that again, they voted against lower emissions. I know because they were my amendments. It doesn't end there: in the infrastructure bill which we are set to consider next week, there is a designation of "high per-

forming" states based on climate policies. We offered an amendment during committee markup that would remove that designation if those same policies resulted in a disproportionate negative impact on disadvantaged communities. This amendment was voted down. Under the current text of the Invest Act, states that are being sued by civil rights groups for climate policies that hurt disadvantaged communities will be rewarded.

They have voted against amendments that would have clamped down on child labor in Africa and slave labor in China, because it's inconsistent with the progressive anti-U.S. energy agenda. For every ton of emissions reduced by the United States, China has increased its emissions by 4 tons—and yet, policies coming from the other side will export jobs to China, increase global emissions, and increase American dependence on China.

Again, don't believe me? Let me read from a report put out by the Senate Democrats' Climate Committee: "As we institute domestic decarbonization policies that increase overall production costs . . . we could see U.S. companies shift their production to countries that are less restrictive on carbon emissions . . . This will not only lead to an increase in total global emissions, but also the outsourcing of American jobs." And they haven't included a single policy in any of their climate bills to counteract this result of outsourcing American jobs and increasing global emissions. Is it any wonder why we question their motives for this action today?

There is a way to effectively address methane emissions without costing jobs and increasing global emissions. I am on board with that discussion. But it isn't about that. It's about one more of the thousand cuts to destroy American jobs, reduce American competitiveness, and increase global emissions.

IN RECOGNITION OF LORETTA CANNON'S OVER 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Loretta Cannon on the occasion of her retirement after nearly 43 years of service to the Downriver Community Conference. Her significant contributions to the Downriver community are worthy of commendation.

Ms. Cannon began working for the Downriver Community Conference in 1980, as a Switchboard Operator at the Superior Street site in Wyandotte, where she worked directly with the Conference's Employment & Training Program. Since then, she has remained a valuable employee of the Conference, serving as Administrative Assistant in the Economic Development and Brownfield Development Programs, with her latest role in the Workforce Program. A true testament to her perseverance, she earned her bachelor's degree while working full time at the Conference.

Known to coworkers and friends as someone with a warm heart and generous spirit, Ms. Cannon has always been there to help friends, family, colleagues, and even complete

strangers. Along with Paula Boase, she collected warm clothing and blankets for the homeless and hand delivered these items to those in need. With a steadfast faith and a love of family guiding her, she is a pillar of strength to all who know her. To her family at home and to her "DCC Family" at work, she is truly irreplaceable.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Loretta Cannon for an exemplary 4 decades of dedicated public service. She has effectively served the Downriver community and the State of Michigan in her many roles with the Downriver Community Conference. I join with Loretta's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to her in retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE WILLIAM WHITMORE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of George William Whitmore, who passed away on January 1, 2021. George was a veteran of the United States Air Force, a husband, friend, and a man who loved adventures with nature.

George was born on February 8, 1931 in Fresno, California to Raymond and Jean Whitmore. His father was a Marine during WWII and became a stockbroker when he got out of the service. His mother worked for Pacific Gas & Electric. During the Great Depression, the family moved to the Central Valley. George attended Salinas High School and decided to study at University of California, San Francisco earning a degree in 1954 as a Pharmacist. During his spare time, George enjoyed climbing and later decided to join the Air Force in the medical evacuation unit as an aeromedical evacuation officer.

After the Air Force, he decided to continue working as a pharmacist, but in the summer, he would spend his time hiking and climbing. George climbed the Andes in Peru and El Capitan at Yosemite with his friends, Warren Harding and Wayne Merry. He served in leadership roles for the Sierra Club, and served as a Chairman for the Tehipite Chapter based in Fresno, California.

George helped establish the Kaiser Wilderness in 1976 and the California Wilderness Act of 1984, which added 1.8 million acres into the National Wilderness Preservation System. He helped protect lakes and block dam projects and highways and also helped prevent Walt Disney Co. from developing a proposed ski resort at Mineral King in the 1960s and '70s. It was stopped after sustained opposition by the Sierra Club and other preservationists, and the valley subsequently became part of Sequoia National Park.

George battled cancer with his wife Nancy by his side. He and Nancy were together for over 40 years and were each other's best friend. George never lost his love for adventure. He enjoyed visiting with friends and he still participated in the Sierra Club meetings, continuing to educate people on the importance of preservation.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, niece Caroline and husband Bob, nephew Randy and his wife Betty.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of George William Whitmore for his service and contributions to the environment that surrounds us. I join his family and friends in celebrating George's life.

IN HONOR OF DOCTOR EDMUND W. ROBB III

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the career and community service of Doctor Edmund W. Robb III, Senior Pastor of The Woodlands United Methodist Church.

Dr. Robb will be retiring as Senior Pastor of The Woodlands United Methodist Church after 43 years of honorable service. Before beginning his career with the church, Dr. Robb earned his Master of Theology from The Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. In 1978, Dr. Robb was appointed to start a new Methodist church in his growing community and began knocking on doors in the neighborhood to recruit members. The church was born when The Woodlands was just a budding community of young families, but under Dr. Robb's leadership, it has grown to over 14,000 members.

Dr. Robb is not only recognized today for his 43 years as an impactful pastor, but also for his dedicated service to The Woodlands community. He spent 20 years serving as an elected official of The Woodlands Township and its predecessor, Town Center Improvement District (TCID). Alongside State Senator Tommy Williams, he led the way in negotiating the agreement that would allow The Woodlands to become a Township. He was an instrumental guide in leading the TCID in partnering with private developers to build the Convention Center, develop Town Green Park and expand The Woodlands Waterway. Dr. Robb has also authored several published books, including "The Wonder of Christmas," "Under Wraps," "Mountaintop Moments" and "Making Room: Sharing the Love of Christmas." His commitment to our community has left a positive impact that will continue to influence The Woodlands area for generations.

Today, Dr. Robb continues to serve the community on the board of the Houston Methodist Hospital and as board Chairman of "A Foundation for Theological Education." He and his wife, Bev, are parents to three married children and grandparents to eight grandchildren. Though he is retiring, he will remain actively engaged as a leader in his community and a calming voice of reason to those around him.

After 43 years of exceptional work and service to our community, I am proud to join Dr. Robb's colleagues, family and friends in congratulating him on his retirement and thanking him for all that he has done for our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CLEMENCY HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Clemency Home Rule Act, which would give the District of Columbia exclusive authority, like the states and territories have, to grant clemency to offenders prosecuted under its local laws.

While District law appears to give the mayor authority to grant clemency (D.C. Code 1–301.76), it has been the opinion of the Department of Justice (DOJ) that the president, and not the mayor, has the authority to grant clemency for most offenses prosecuted under D.C. law, particularly felonies prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney for D.C. in the D.C. Superior Court. Under current practice, clemency petitions for D.C. convictions, like federal convictions, are submitted to DOJ for the president's consideration.

Whether or not DOJ's view is correct, my bill would remove all doubt that the District, and not the president, has the authority to issue clemency for local offenses. The District, like the states and territories, should have full control of its local criminal justice system, the most basic responsibility of local government. Since the D.C. Council has the authority to enact local laws, District officials are in the best position to grant clemency for local law convictions. My bill would provide clemency authority to the District and would give D.C. the discretion to establish its own clemency system.

This bill is an important step in establishing further autonomy for the District. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN MEMORY OF PRITAM GREWAL

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Pritam Singh Grewal, one of North Jersey's most compassionate community leaders. Raised in India, Pritam immigrated directly to the Fifth District in 1972 and dedicated himself to our community ever since. He was truly an unselfish and deeply caring man who made an impact on everyone who crossed his path.

As a founding member of Glen Rock's Sikh Gurudwara, Pritam helped build a safe space for North Jersey's Sikh community to come together and worship. Having personally visited several times, I can attest to the special atmosphere he instilled in this important Glen Rock establishment.

Pritam always felt a calling to promote quality education throughout his community. He taught mechanical engineering at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and later partnered with his brother, Amarjit, to establish the Grewal, Harchand Singh and Jagir Kaur Memorial Scholarship of Ramapo College, in memory of his late parents.

Pritam was also widely known throughout Hackensack University Medical Center where